

Federal Duck Stamp Program

Put Your Stamp on Conservation... Buy a Duck Stamp

What is a Federal Duck Stamp?

A Federal Duck Stamp is a conservation revenue stamp. Proceeds from stamp sales help acquire and protect wetland habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Wetlands acquired with Duck Stamp dollars help purify water, aid in flood control, reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities.

While only waterfowl hunters over the age of 16 are required to purchase them, anyone can contribute to conservation by buying Duck Stamps.

Formally known as the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, the Duck Stamp was conceived in 1934, when Congress passed and President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act.

Who Buys Federal Duck Stamps?

- Conservationists buy Federal Duck Stamps because they know that the stamp is, dollar for dollar, the best investment one can make toward the future of America's wetlands.
- Artists and art collectors buy them because the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest is one of the most prestigious art competitions and a way for artists to show their work in support of conservation.
- Waterfowl hunters are required to buy a Federal Duck Stamp; they and other sportsmen and women know that their purchase helps acquire prime habitat that supports the hunting tradition.
- Birders and other outdoor enthusiasts buy Duck Stamps because they know wetlands support more than just ducks.
- Visitors buy them to gain free admission to national wildlife refuges.



2014-2015 Federal Duck Stamp - Canvasbacks Art by Adam Grimm of Burbank, SD

- Stamp collectors buy them because they are valuable collectors' items.

How much land has been acquired with Federal Duck Stamp dollars?

Ninety-eight cents of every dollar generated by the sale of Federal Duck Stamps goes to purchase or lease wetland habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Since 1934, \$800 million in proceeds from Duck Stamp sales have helped acquire and protect more than **6 million acres** of wetlands within the Refuge System. ***In the continental United States, at least one national wildlife refuge in nearly every state has acquired important waterfowl habitat with Duck Stamp funds.***

E-Stamp: A Convenient Way to Buy

The Electronic Duck Stamp Program, or "E-Stamp," allows states to sell and distribute Federal Duck Stamps electronically. Customers still receive a paper stamp but hunters may hunt with an E-Stamp receipt as proof of purchase for up to 45 days or until they receive their Duck Stamp in the mail. Anyone, regardless of their state of residency, can buy an



Duck Stamp dollars help protect habitat for birds and other wildlife on national wildlife refuges - providing great opportunities to get out in nature. Credit: USFWS



Continue to support the Federal Duck Stamp. \$15 helps not only you but the birds too. Credit: Garry Tucker/USFWS

E-Stamp instantly online. Legislation currently in Congress would make this pilot program permanent. Using existing authority, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently selected four additional states to participate in the E-Stamp program beginning with the 2014-2015 season.

The Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest

Each fall, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hosts the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest to select the art that will provide the design for the following year's stamp. A panel of judges reviews hundreds of entries and selects the winner. The Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest is the only Congressionally mandated, federally sponsored art competition.

The 2014 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest will be held Sept. 19 and 20 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, W. Va. The judging is free and open to the public. For more details, go to www.fws.gov/duckstamps.

The first Federal Duck Stamp, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling. Credit: USFWS

How can I buy Federal Duck Stamps and Duck Stamp Products?

Federal Duck Stamps are sold at many U.S. Post Offices nationwide. They are also sold online through the U.S. Postal Service, by states participating in the E-Stamp program, and by Amplex, a distribution company. Duck Stamps are also sold at some national wildlife refuges and at many sporting goods and outdoor equipment stores.

The Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Duck Stamp Office does not sell duck stamp products, but we do allow licensed vendors to produce and sell products bearing the images of both the Federal and Junior Duck Stamps. If you are interested in becoming a licensee, contact us at duckstamps@fws.gov.

2014 Federal Duck Stamp "Value Added" Products

Products such as the Artist Commemorative Issue and silk cachet, may be purchased through Amplex and the USPS (*see sidebar for details*).



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Federal Duck Stamp Program
(703) 358-1784
duckstamps@fws.gov
www.fws.gov/duckstamps**

**On Facebook:
USFWS_Federal Duck Stamp**

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Buy Duck Stamps and Save Wetlands!

Where to buy Duck Stamps:

U.S. Postal Service

www.usps.com
1-800-STAMP24
1-800-782-6724

Find E-Stamp sales outlets at

www.fws.gov/duckstamps/stamps.htm

Amplex Corporation

www.duckstamp.com
1-800-852-4897

On location:

(call first to ensure they sell Federal Duck Stamps)
Local Post Offices
usps.whitepages.com

**Sporting good and equipment
retailers, including BassPro Shops,
Cabela's, WalMart and Kmart**

National Wildlife Refuges
www.fws.gov/Refuges